

Mr. Speaker, the transition to democracy has not been easy for the nations of the former Soviet Union. It is all too easy for a nation going through so difficult a transition to lose sight of its goal of building a peaceful, prosperous, democratic nation. Because in times that try men's souls and challenge their convictions, the forces of darkness, hate, violence, and demagoguery offer easy, false answers to the most difficult and complex problems.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the forces of evil have struck a blow to the people of Armenia and their democratic government. I am saddened to hear of the deaths of Prime Minister Sarkisian, Speaker Demirchian, Finance Minister Barkudaryan, and the other officials. I pray for their families, and for the country they loved and served with distinction.

The Armenian people have faced great trials and tests throughout their history. They have proved their resilience in the face of tragedy before, and I have no doubt that they will endure today's tragic occurrence, recognize that a madman's bullet can never put an end to a people's dreams, and keep moving forward on the path of peace and freedom.

Armenia faces serious challenges at home and abroad. When I met Prime Minister Sarkisian last month, he expressed his hopes for the future of his nation, and his desire to tackle the problems of today. Yesterday, he witnessed his country hold free and fair local elections. He had also participated in conversations attempting to initiate the peace process with Azerbaijan. It is now time for others to use his life, beliefs, and death to motivate them to continue to build on the principles he embodied and the work he leaves unfinished.

Mr. Speaker, let us all pray for the families of the victims and the people of Armenia. We must remember that making the transition to democracy is no easy task. Let us in America recommit ourselves to assisting Armenia and other countries making this most difficult transition.

ALBERT EINSTEIN MONUMENT AND SCIENCE GARDEN

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very special ceremony taking place December 8, 1999: the dedication of the Albert Einstein Monument and Science Garden in Jerusalem. The monument and this occasion pay tribute to the greatest mind of the 20th Century and perhaps of all time—Albert Einstein. I also want to recognize the contributions of Dr. Dan Maydan, president of Applied Materials, Inc., whose generosity made this ceremony possible.

Einstein's scientific revelations transformed mankind's understanding of the origins and nature of the universe, and placed within humanity's grasp the power of the elemental forces of nature. But Einstein's genius was not limited to the scientific realm alone, as he was also a great humanitarian, strong advocate for world peace and a proud Jew. A powerful advocate of a Jewish state all his life, Einstein delivered the first-ever scientific address at the

Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1923. Although he was never able to return to Israel, Einstein worked for the rest of his life for the rebirth of the Jewish State, whose presidency he was offered in 1955, shortly before his death.

After his escape from the Nazis, Einstein made his home in the United States, becoming one of his adopted country's most revered citizens. In his memory, a deeply moving statue by the noted American artist Robert Berks was erected on the grounds of the National Academy of Sciences here in Washington. Washington's Einstein Memorial inspires all who visit it with its gentle power and its evocation of Einstein's world-altering ideas. For young and old, scientists and non-scientists alike, the statue has become a place of pilgrimage, drawing people back again and again for contemplation and inspiration.

Now, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Dan Maydan, President of Applied Materials, Inc., of San Jose, California, a new casting of that statue is being dedicated in Jerusalem. Standing on the grounds of the Israel Academy of Sciences, the monument will serve not only as a tribute to Albert Einstein's contributions to the Jewish people and the State of Israel, but also to the bonds of scientific cooperation between the United States and Israel. This monument, and the display and visitor center that will accompany it, is certain to become a new historical and cultural landmark in Jerusalem. Like its counterpart in the United States, it will become a magnet for visitors and provide inspiration for future generations of scientists and statesmen.

Albert Einstein was a man of truly universal vision. "All religions, arts, and sciences," he said, "are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom." The Einstein Monument and Science Garden will serve as an eloquent testament to Einstein's scientific genius. Equally important in this dawning era of peace between Israel and its neighbors, it will commemorate Einstein's hatred of war and the vision of world peace that he so passionately espoused.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to please join me in celebrating this historic event as well as recognizing the efforts of Dr. Dan Maydan to bring this to fruition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. J. CARL NATCHEZ

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with sadness to pay special tribute to a dear friend of mine, Dr. J. Carl Natchez who passed away October 23, 1999. I had the pleasure of knowing Carl for many years. He was not only my Optometrist, he was a mentor to me. Carl shared my deep commitment to the promotion, protection, and enhancement of human dignity.

Dr. Natchez was born in Battle Creek, Michigan, on October 15, 1915, the son of Shay and Jennie Natchez. He was a retired Lieutenant Colonel of the U.S. Air Force, serving in World War II and was a Liaison Officer

of the U.S. Air Force Academy. He graduated Valedictorian at Chicago College of Optometry. Dr. Natchez practiced as a Doctor of Optometry for 48 years in the Flint and Lansing area.

It is not often that our lives are touched by someone like Carl who has served his fellow citizens in so many ways; first in the Air Force, then through active participation in civic events, and through his skilled services as a Doctor of Optometry.

Dr. Natchez has made a tremendous contribution to all our lives and he will be greatly missed. Our community is certainly a better place because of Carl and I know that I am a better person because of him. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in offering our sincerest sympathy to his entire family and host of friends. While we all mourn Carl's loss, we will forever remember the legacy of such a giving, dedicated, and exceptional man.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MIGHTY EIGHTH

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the members of The Mighty Eighth who served in the Armed Forces during World War II. They, along with the other armed services, answered the call to defend our homes and our loved ones, and to crush Hitler's dream to rule the world. The Eighth Air Force was our premier fighting outfit. It took the war directly to the heartland of Nazi Germany from bases across East Anglia.

America called on them and these brave men answered our country's cry for help—the call to strike out tyranny and injustice. The Mighty Eighth airmen stepped forward from all walks of life. They gave it everything they had—some with their lives, but all with their hearts—for the freedom we celebrate today.

Imagine, if you will, the most horrible conditions. Flying over enemy territory in broad daylight in an unarmored bomber. It is freezing cold, about 30 degrees below zero, your life line is your flightsuit and your oxygen mask. The bombers fly in a tight square formation as a defense against Nazi fighter planes. There is a constant danger of colliding with the other bombers. Now, imagine dozens of Nazi fighters coming from all directions. It had to be terrifying for these young airmen, but they bravely carried on. These are the people who risked their lives for our country and the freedom we now enjoy.

From humble beginnings, The Mighty Eighth formed shortly after the United States entered World War II. It included 200,000 people—40 bomb groups, 15 fighter groups, and two photo reconnaissance groups. They hailed from all over the United States including young men from the 21st Congressional district of Pennsylvania. Their mission was to help the Royal Air Force destroy the military and industrial power of Nazi Germany. They were young, patriotic, and inexperienced. They were determined to give the United States the best that they had to give.

The faced nearly impossible odds. They were pitted against the German Air Force who

were superbly trained and very experienced at destroying everything in their path. The Luftwaffe, as the German Air Force was called, had already devastated most of Europe.

During those early years of World War II, they were the shock troops sent against Hitler. They opened a second front against the Nazis, long before the invasion of Europe. They tied-up hundreds of thousands of German troops, manning more than 10,000 anti-aircraft guns. By the admission of Hitler's armaments czar, Albert Speer, the second front "was the greatest battle lost by the German side."

Massive air battles followed, involving both fighters and bombers, and more than 26,000 of the Mighty Eighth lost their lives. More than 18,000 were wounded and over 28,000 became Prisoners of War in the valiant defense of our country. Despite the heavy losses they suffered, The Mighty Eighth established the enviable record of never, never being turned back by enemy action.

The ferocious war that was waged by the Royal Air Force and the Eighth AAF before D-Day, gave the Allied Forces complete superiority over the Normandy Beaches. They created the conditions that helped lead to the success of the D-Day landings. On the morning of June 6, 1944, some 1,250 bombers from the Eighth Air Force struck beach targets in preparation of the invasion. Throughout the day, all operational Eighth Air Force fighters provided air cover and attacked both road and rail targets.

At the end of the war, 90 percent of Germany's infrastructure was demolished. The oil industry was demolished, and the transportation systems were in pieces. With the help of The Mighty Eighth, the Luftwaffe was destroyed!

Their exploits added a glowing volume to the chronicles of military history but it came at a terrible cost. What they endured saved the lives of thousands and thousands in the ground forces. They made the invasion of Europe possible.

The Mighty Eighth, played a vital role in the elimination of a deadly threat from the Nazi plague. This is the legacy of The Mighty Eighth, many of whom are no longer with us. We honor these aging heroes because they preserved freedom for us, their children and for generations to come.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3156, THE TECH FLEX BILL

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise regarding an issue important to the students, teachers, and educators in the 13th District of Pennsylvania.

When I was first elected to Congress, I decided to embark on a deliberate strategy to get to know the schools in my community. I wanted to hear directly from educators how their schools were doing and what their needs were.

To get the best feedback, I sent out an education survey to every school in the district and set up a series of roundtable discussions

open to parents, teachers, principals, and superintendents.

One of the most important things I learned was that the schools in my district all placed a high priority on educating children using the best technology available. For this, I applaud them.

I also learned that on average, my schools are doing well in terms of computer hardware, with a good number of computers available to both teachers and students.

But the schools need help providing additional opportunities for training teachers to use that hardware and integrate the tools of the information age into everyday classroom learning. Teachers want more training in technology.

And the educators explained to me that they face a key obstacle: while technology training courses have been available, too many teachers find it impossible to get away from the classroom to attend the trainings because of a lack of substitute teachers.

Is that not ironic? The training teachers need is in sight, but they simply cannot get to it.

To overcome this disconnect, yesterday I introduced H.R. 3156, the Teacher Training in Technology Flexibility Act (Tech Flex).

Tech Flex would add new flexibility to the use of funds under technology training programs for teachers, allowing local school districts to hire substitutes, provide teachers with paid release time, and provide other incentives to overcome barriers to accessing technology training.

The bill would do so by amending the Technology for Education Act of 1994 to clarify that release time and incentives are permissible and encouraged expenditures under existing teacher technology training programs.

"Release time and other incentives" includes leave from work, providing for a substitute, payment for travel expenses, and stipends to encourage teachers and other school personnel to participate in training on the use of technology in education.

Under the bill, school districts could apply for a competitive grant under the state-administered Technology Literacy Challenge Fund and the federally-administered Technology Innovation Challenge Grant and use the resulting funds for release time and incentives, among other authorized activities.

This would allow teachers to break away from class and attend these important technology training courses.

To close, Mr. Speaker, this bill would help overcome a real impediment to the professional development of teachers in technology and allow students to get the most out of the hardware investments made by our schools, and I ask my colleagues' support.

FOODVILLE USA

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 28, 1999

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, while many of us privately grumble from time to time about the directions in which Congressional districting takes us, it is also the case that this process can introduce Members to places with which they were insufficiently fa-

miliar. In my own situation, in 1981, the Massachusetts Legislature drastically revised my district and sent me in exactly the opposite geographic direction from where I was situated after my first election. While this exercise in creative cartography was in fact meant to be something done to me, it turned out to the surprise of everyone, including myself, to be one of the best things that ever happened for me. Quite aside from how it worked out politically, it brought me into close and continuous contact for the past 17 years with the people, places, and activities in Southeastern Massachusetts, and this contact has been a source of education, stimulation, and enjoyment for me ever since.

Among its great attractions, Southeastern Massachusetts is becoming an increasingly important gastronomic center. The presence of the fishing industry in New Bedford has led to a great deal of creative cooking of seafood. The large number of Portuguese-Americans, including a continuous flow of immigrants from the Azores and other parts of Portugal, has also enriched the local culture in many ways, including in the food that is offered.

I was very pleased to see a recent article in the Boston Herald take full account of these trends, and as an example of one of the somewhat still hidden assets of a part of Massachusetts I am very proud to represent here, I ask that the Boston Herald article be reprinted here.

FOODVILLE, USA

Massachusetts' tourist havens seem to be well known and well defined. You head to the Berkshires for music and mountains, Cape Cod for beaches and lobsters, Cape Ann for beaches and witches.

But where do you go for wonderful ethnic food, a professional cooking school, a gourmet-food outlet that carries nearly any food-stuff you can think of, a vibrant farming community, a winery and an unspoiled shoreline that yields freshly caught seafood?

That would be southeastern Massachusetts, a sometimes-ignored region that's emerging as the foodiest corner of the commonwealth. From the Portuguese restaurants of Fall River and New Bedford down to the farms and coastal villages of Westport and Dartmouth, near the Rhode Island border, there's plenty here to draw those interested in locally grown and produced food and wine.

That's especially true this weekend, when the Westport Harvest Festival will be underway. Use that as an excuse to explore and eat your way down toward the coast.

Start your day at Sid Wainer & Son in New Bedford. Henry Wainer, the firm's current president, is a third-generation produce man; his grandfather started the company in 1914. Wainer has long supplied many of the country's—and the world's—top restaurants with fresh produce, and Henry Wainer is particularly proud of what he has done to diversify and improve the region's selection of fruits and vegetables.

"I was the first to bring mesclun in," he says.

But Wainer's vision has taken the company way beyond its produce-stand roots. Six years ago, he opened a retail gourmet outlet, offering the same products his restaurants clients buy. "This area has a lot of talented people who eat out and entertain, and a vast number of people who love to cook," he says, by way of explaining his rationale for opening the store.

And this is a must-see for those who love to cook. "We've got everything," says Wainer sweepingly. As he escorts a visitor